

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-83 (canceled)

84. (currently amended) A system for promoting learning in a child comprising:
a visual graphical environment for a child, the graphical environment presenting a child with one or more visual prompts, said prompts assisting to prompt the child to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects in an desired fashion;
an educational appliance support structure, said support structure ~~having~~ supporting a work space capable of receiving input from a child through the detection of the location of one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space;
one or more detectors associated with a work space, the detectors being capable of detecting the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space by detecting a mechanical downward force generated by the child's placement or manipulation of the one or more graspable objects on the work space; and
a processor capable of determining whether the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space corresponds to a desired response.

85. (previously presented) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 84, where said graphical environment comprises a visual image on the work space.

86. (previously presented) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 85, further comprising audio output device capable of providing one or more audio

prompts assisting to prompt the child to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects.

87. (previously presented) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 86, wherein the audio output device is further capable of providing audio feedback to the child depending on whether the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space corresponds to a desired response.

88. (previously presented) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 84, where said educational appliance includes a loadable memory.

89. (currently amended) A method for promoting learning in a child comprising the steps of:

presenting a visual graphical environment to a child, the graphical environment having one or more visual prompts, said prompts assisting to prompt the child to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects in a desired fashion;

receiving input from a child by detecting the location of one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on a work ~~surface~~ space supported on at least a portion of an educational appliance support structure;

detecting the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space by detecting a mechanical downward force generated by the child's placement or manipulation of the one or more graspable objects on the work space; and

determining whether the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space corresponds to a desired response.

90. (currently amended) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 89, where said graphical environment comprises a visual image on the work ~~surface~~ space.

91. (previously presented) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 89, further comprising the step of providing one or more audio prompts assisting to prompt the child to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects.

92. (previously presented) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 91, further comprising the step of providing audio feedback to the child depending on whether the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space corresponds to a desired response.

93. (currently amended) A system for promoting learning in a child comprising:
a visual graphical environment for a child, the graphical environment presenting a child with one or more visual prompts, said prompts assisting to prompt the child to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects in an desired fashion;
an educational appliance support structure, said support structure ~~having~~ supporting a work space capable of receiving input from a child through the detection of the location of one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space;
one or more detectors associated with a work space, the detectors being capable of detecting the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space; and

a processor capable of determining whether the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space corresponds to a desired response.

94. (previously presented) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 93, where said graphical environment comprises a visual image on the work space.

95. (previously presented) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 94, further comprising audio output device capable of providing one or more audio prompts assisting to prompt the child to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects.

96. (previously presented) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 95, wherein the audio output device is further capable of providing audio feedback to the child depending on whether the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space corresponds to a desired response.

97. (previously presented) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 93, where said educational appliance includes a loadable memory.

98. (currently amended) A method for promoting learning in a child comprising the steps of:

presenting a visual graphical environment to a child, the graphical environment having one or more visual prompts, said prompts assisting to prompt the child to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects in a desired fashion;

receiving input from a child by detecting the location of one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on a work ~~surface~~ space supported on at least a portion of an educational appliance support structure;

detecting the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space; and

determining whether the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space corresponds to a desired response.

99. (currently amended) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 98, where said graphical environment comprises a visual image on the work ~~surface~~ space.

100. (previously presented) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 98, further comprising the step of providing one or more audio prompts assisting to prompt the child to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects.

101. (previously presented) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 100, further comprising the step of providing audio feedback to the child depending on whether the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space corresponds to a desired response.

102. (new) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 84, wherein the detectors detect the lateral movement of at least one graspable object across the

work space and the processor receives information from the detectors corresponding to the path of the at least one graspable object along the work space.

103. (new) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 85, further comprising an electronic contact sensitive display screen which displays the visual image on the work space.

104. (new) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 89, further comprising detecting the lateral movement of at least one graspable object across the work space and the inputting into a processor information corresponding to the path of the at least one graspable object along the work space.

105. (new) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 90, wherein an electronic contact sensitive display screen displays the visual image on the work space.

106. (new) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 93, wherein the detectors detect the lateral movement of at least one graspable object across the work space and the processor receives information from the detectors corresponding to the path of the at least one graspable object along the work space.

107. (new) A system for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 94, further comprising an electronic contact sensitive display screen which displays the visual image on the work space.

108. (new) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 98, further comprising detecting the lateral movement of at least one graspable object across the work space and the inputting into a processor information corresponding to the path of the at least one graspable object along the work space.

109. (new) A method for promoting learning in a child as recited in claim 99, wherein an electronic contact sensitive display screen displays the visual image on the work space.